The Executive Scholars program builds a pipeline between high-performing Promise Scholars and Promise donors. It provides students with the chance to connect with the prestigious donor with whom they are matched to pursue professional relationships and connections during their college years. The shift from high school to college can be daunting, as can the shift from college to the workforce. Executive Scholars of The Pittsburgh Promise are provided with excellent professional development opportunities and relationships that will enrich the college experience and provide guidance to beginning a career.

The Executive Scholars program is one of the ways that The Promise can help students transition not only from high school to college, but also from college to a career. Thank you for being one of ten prestigious donors in our Executive Scholars program!
Noor El-Dehabi

A Pittsburgh CAPA graduate, Noor is now an urban studies major at the University of Pittsburgh. She won several writing awards during high school and wrote for the school newspaper. Noor is passionate about creative writing and community-based art, so she was especially proud of her work as part of the Mattress Factory Art Cooperative’s outreach programs.

Samikchya Rai

Samikchya graduated from Pittsburgh Brashear, where she achieved High Honor Roll all four years. Samikchya has not yet declared a major at the University of Pittsburgh, but she is passionate about biology and the environment. Samikchya was in National Honor Society, volunteered at West Penn Hospital, and held an internship at Phipps Conservatory.

Teddy Caplan

Majoring in fine arts, Teddy is attending the Tyler School of Art at Temple University. This Pittsburgh Allderdice graduate participated in the Student Conservation Association, National Honor Society, Spanish Club, and was on the crew team during high school. Teddy volunteers with J-Serve and Sojourner House.

Sarah Jackson

Sarah was a Pittsburgh Promise Ambassador at Pittsburgh Allderdice, where she participated in the Black Student Union and National Honor Society. In addition to her Promise award, she received a Ben Carson Scholarship. Sarah is studying marketing at Robert Morris University with hopes of becoming a real estate agent.

Miranda McArdle

Miranda received a Trustee Scholarship to study at Point Park University. She is majoring in advertising and hopes to start her career quickly after graduating college. She attended Pittsburgh Carrick. As Vice-President of the Senior Class Committee, she was proud to fundraise and organize a memorable prom for her classmates.
Brooke Bova
Brooke is on a pre-law track with a minor in chemistry at Washington & Jefferson College. She is passionate about politics and being active in her community. Brooke graduated from Pittsburgh Carrick, where she was on student council and played volleyball.

Brittany Joseph
Brittany is currently studying psychology and communication arts at Allegheny College. She has always had an appreciation for drama and theatre. Brittany won a Thespian Award while attending Pittsburgh Carrick.

Rhianna Aubrey
Rhianna studies political science at Duquesne University. She did a senior project at Children’s Hospital of Pittsburgh of UPMC and started a mental health awareness campaign at Pittsburgh Scitech. She learned the value of giving back while volunteering at a nursing home.

Josephine Friedman
Attending Chatham University to study media arts, Josephine enjoys the way art and technology intersect in film, animation, and digital illustration. She hopes to use her creativity and technology professionally. Josephine is a Pittsburgh Obama graduate.

Dremond King
Dremond is a marketing major at Indiana University of Pennsylvania and hopes to eventually receive his master’s. Community service taught him the value of helping others. Dremond graduated from Pittsburgh City High.
2016

Maya Best

Maya was valedictorian of her class at Pittsburgh CAPA. Attending the University of Pittsburgh, she hopes to pursue degrees in creative writing and anthropology. Maya is passionate about helping children. She has served as a volunteer tutor at the East End Cooperative Ministry, and teaches English at the local library.

Patrick Keating

A graduate of Pittsburgh Carrick, Patrick played volleyball while balancing his academics along with work. Patrick is attending Robert Morris University, where he received the Independence Institutional Scholarship. He is studying business and marketing, and hopes to make others aware of public programs that are available.

Bili Thang

Bili is a graduate of Pittsburgh Brashear. He is now attending La Roche College to study computer science. While he attended high school he enjoyed playing sports. He also has a passion for music. Bili takes pride in his academic achievements and maintaining a part-time job during high school.

Hailey Treloar

Hailey is a graduate of Pittsburgh Obama and is attending Washington and Jefferson College, where she received an academic scholarship. She was captain of her soccer team and volunteered at the Brookline public library. Her major is international business, and she hopes to travel the world making a difference.

Madelynn Mitchell

Madelynn is a journalism major who hopes to one day publish her own book. She’s spent a lot of time volunteering at a local food pantry. Madelynn is no stranger to hard work and always held at least one job since she was sixteen. She is a graduate of Pittsburgh Milliones (UPrep) and is now attending Lincoln University.
2015

Shayonna Herring

A Pittsburgh Perry graduate, Shayonna was a member of her high school cheerleading and dance team. She is passionate about helping others and volunteered over 130 hours at Allegheny General Hospital. She is also a member of the National Honor Society. Shayonna is pursuing political science at Penn State University.

Morgan McCoy

Morgan is a public relations and advertising major at Point Park University, where she received the Vice Presidential Scholarship. Morgan’s marketing internship taught her that people are at the heart of business, stirring her desire to one day become an entrepreneur. Morgan is a graduate of Pittsburgh CAPA.

Jameelah Platt

Jameelah is an advertisement design major at the University of the Arts with a passion for creating art. A graduate of Pittsburgh CAPA, she was a member of the Feminist Student Union and the Black Student Union. In addition to her Promise award, she is a recipient of the National Scholastic Silver Key Award and the Emma Munson Memorial Scholarship.

Rieko Copeland

A graduate of Pittsburgh CAPA, Rieko is attending the University of the Arts to study vocal music performance. She hopes to influence people in a positive way through song. Rieko was awarded the Omega Psi Phi scholarship and the Good Neighbor scholarship. Volunteering with Sister Speaks has helped her develop enthusiasm for giving back.

William Mischler

William is studying politics and philosophy at the University of Pittsburgh. He is most proud of starting his own business and participating in a youth conference at the U.N. in New York. During his time at Pittsburgh Allderdice, William organized a fundraiser which raised over $500 for juvenile diabetes research.
Megan Butter
A communications major at Penn State University, Megan hopes to work in public relations someday. A graduate of Pittsburgh Brashear, she was the senior captain of her school’s soccer team and continues to be passionate about athletics.

Kielle Deanda
Kielle attends California University of Pennsylvania with an interest to study journalism and business. A graduate of Pittsburgh Westinghouse, she is passionate about giving back. At Westinghouse, Kielle was the senior activity advisor and participated in a service trip to Costa Rica.

Zoe Grubbs
Zoe is a fashion merchandising major at Indiana University of Pennsylvania and a graduate of Pittsburgh CAPA. Zoe is especially proud of her participation in Children’s International Summer Villages, a program that promotes world peace through international travel.

Nicole Lennartz
A graduate of Pittsburgh CAPA, Nicole is a communications major with a minor in violin performance at Duquesne University. In addition to her Promise award, Nicole was awarded the 2014 Anthony E. Benvin Music Scholarship. Nicole hopes in the future to work in public relations.

Max Zack Yoffee
Max Zack, a Pittsburgh Allderdice graduate, now studies finance at Penn State University. He is passionate about business and started and sold his own laundry company while in high school. He also enjoys giving back through Friendship Circle, an organization that matches volunteers with special needs teens.
Lauren Brown

A graduate of Pittsburgh CAPA, Lauren attends Chatham University majoring in biology and fine arts. Her artwork has garnered her multiple awards and has been displayed in the Eastside Gallery. She is the recipient of the Eleanor Frieberg Scholarship and the NAACP Human Rights Award.

Natalie Jellison

Natalie studies writing and business at Chatham University. She graduated from Pittsburgh Brashear and is passionate about empowering women. In addition to her Promise Scholarship, Natalie received an Academic Scholarship with Chatham University.

Kevin McIntyre

A graduate of Pittsburgh Brashear, Kevin is pursuing a degree in computer science at Allegheny College. Kevin was a member of the golf team in high school. In addition to his Promise Scholarship, he received the Trustee and Bicentennial academic scholarships through Allegheny College.

Sara Micic

Sara graduated from Pittsburgh Brashear with high honors. She studies photography and journalism at Duquesne University. She received national honors for her volunteer efforts with Carnegie Library and the Children’s Museum.

Erik Rauterkus

Erik studies public policy and economics at Swarthmore College. Erik graduated from Pittsburgh Obama with a passion for civic engagement. In 2012 he was elected Youth Governor through the Pennsylvania Youth and Government Program. As the Governor, he promoted service hours to youth state-wide resulting in 1500 service hours completed in the program.